

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
R. W. Grand Lodge
I. O. O. F.,
OF THE
Lower Provinces of British North America,
AT THE ANNUAL SESSION OF
1874.
WITH THE CONSTITUTION OF
R. W. Grand and Subordinate Lodges
OF THE JURISDICTION.

"Amicitia, Amor,  et Veritas."

SAINT JOHN, N. B.
PRINTED BY BARNES & CO.,
PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES.

The *Per Capita Tax* for the year 1874-75 will be thirty cents per head, each term, on members reported in December 1874 and June 1875.

No supplies will be furnished except upon an order signed by the Secretary or Noble Grand, under seal of the Lodge; and it is expected that cash will accompany all orders. (See standing resolution 3.)

When Charge and Degree Books are ordered, the old ones must be returned immediately.

The following rates will be charged for supplies furnished, with postage in addition, when forwarded by mail:—

Ode Cards, . . . . .	.....	.....	80 60 per doz.
Dismissal Certificates, . . . . .	.....	.....	4 50 "
Visiting and Withdrawal Cards, . . . . .	.....	.....	4 50 "
Trustees and Treasurer's Bonds,	1 20 "
Diplomas,	12 00 "
Charge Books,	3 00 each.
Degree Books,	3 00 "
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NOTICE TO SECRETARIES

I. O. O. F.



JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

R. W. Grand Lodge

OF THE

LOWER PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

Held at the Hall of Orient Lodge, No. 10, in Halifax, Nova Scotia,
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 21st, 22d and 23d July, 1874.



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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
R. W. GRAND LODGE LOWER PROVINCES B. N. A.
AT THE
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.
1874.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, }
July 21st, 1874. }

The R. W. Grand Lodge, Lower Provinces, B. N. A., assembled this day in Orient Lodge Room, Halifax, N. S., being the Annual Communication.

Officers present :—M. W. Grand Master, H. A. Taylor ; R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Alexander Robertson ; R. W. Grand Warden, James E. Geldert ; R. W. Grand Representative, James Yorston ; W. Grand Conductor, W. B. Alley ; W. Grand Guardian, Thomas Turnbull.

The Grand Master appointed the following brothers, *pro tem*, to occupy the Chairs of absentees : R. W. Grand Secretary, Robert Hockin ; W. Grand Marshal, R. Radford Barnes ; W. Grand Chaplain, Gilbert Murdoch ; W. Grand Herald, James Mitchell.

The following members elected to serve last year for the first time, were also present : R. R. Barnes, Alexander Robertson, Gilbert Murdoch, Isaac A. Grant, J. W. Boyd, Thomas W. Turnbull, R. Hockin, H. A. Taylor, James Mitchell, and W. F. Chase.

A constitutional number of officers and quorum of members being present, the Grand Lodge was opened with prayer by Gilbert Murdoch, W. Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on credentials reported as follows :

The Committee on credentials would respectfully report the following named Past Grands as duly accredited Representatives to this Grand Lodge :

Eastern Star Lodge, No. 2.—James Yorston and R. P. Fraser.

Fuller Lodge, No. 5.—Thomas McKay.

Norton Lodge, No. 6.—W. B. Alley, Peter McG. Chisholm, and Robert McConnell.

Widows' Hops Lodge, No. 7.—Jas. E. Geldert and Simon Fraser.

St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 8.—J. P. Irving, J. C. G. Ellis, and Sylvanus Keith.

Pioneer Lodge, No. 9.—W. Kilby Dimock and R. B. Emerson.

Orient Lodge, No. 10.—W. Williams.

Victoria Lodge, No. 13.—John Richards and C. S. Brannen.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 14.—L. M. Leadley.

Eureka Lodge, No. 15.—William Hall, Alex. McKay, and John Murray.

The following Past Grands were then introduced and instructed in the Grand Lodge Degree :

R. P. Fraser, of Eastern Star, No. 2 ; P. McG. Chisholm and Robert McConnell, of Norton, No. 6 ; R. B. Emerson, of Pioneer, No. 9 ; W. Williams, of Orient, No. 10 ; John Richards, of Victoria, No. 13 ; L. M. Leadley, of Excelsior, No. 14 ; J. P. Irving, J. C. G. Ellis, and Sylvanus Keith, of St. Lawrence, No. 8.

Grand Master Taylor filled places of absentees, and announced Committees for Session as follows :

Finance Committee.—Reps. G. Murdoch, K. J. Matheson, James Mitchell, R. R. Barnes, and J. C. G. Ellis.

On Credentials.—Reps. James Yorston, A. McKay, and R. R. Barnes.

On Returns.—Reps. J. E. Geldert, I. A. Grant, and Thomas W. Turnbull.

On Correspondence.—Reps. R. R. Barnes, John Richards, and W. N. Mills.

On Appeals.—Reps. I. A. Grant, James Mitchell, and W. W. Williams.

Laws of Subordinates.—Reps. Alex. Robertson, R. R. Barnes, and R. B. Emerson.

On Petitions.—Reps. Simon Fraser, W. B. Alley, and J. W. Boyd.

On State of the Order.—Reps. Gilbert Murdoch, K. J. Matheson, and Thos. W. Turnbull.

Grand Master Taylor read the following report of his work during the past year :

To the Officers and Representatives of the R. W. Grand Lodge, L. P. B. N. A.

WORTHY BROTHERS.—Through the long-suffering kindness and forbearance of our ever living Supreme Grand Master, by whose special dispensation we are permitted once more to assemble under such favorable circumstances, to legislate for and deliberate upon such subjects as will be most conducive to the advancement, and the best interest of our organization. We are here assembled to counsel and instruct each other in our duties personally and relatively. May the overruling Great Grand Master so direct us in all our deliberations, that they will not only be beneficial to ourselves, but tend to the extension of our principles and of our Order in the world ; the promotion of love to God and good-will to men everywhere.

Pleasing recollections of the past history of our Order call to mind the fact that we are in the city where our first subordinate lodge was instituted—I refer to old Acadia Lodge, No. 26, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It was here also in "Old Chebucto," that this Grand Lodge received its Charter! and it was here also, that our first Encampment, "Mamberton," was inaugurated! and, let me add, there are still men to the fore who belonged to all these in by-gone years, while many of the old standard-bearers have gone the way of all the earth, and are now numbered with the clods of the valley.

Let us all believe, and so act, as though each was convinced that our principles are heaven-born, and that our Order must and will become a power for good in the land. It is a source of pleasure to me to be able to report the continued prosperity and progress of our Order in this jurisdiction.

You will be pleased to learn that we have added to our roll

FOUR NEW LODGES.

The first one instituted was named "Excelsior," No. 14, located at Dartmouth, Five brothers joined "Orient" Lodge, No. 10, having in view the extension of our Order, and took withdrawal cards, petitioned for a Charter, and believing that a lodge could and would be worked successfully at Dartmouth, "Excelsior," No. 14, was instituted on the 21st November last, on which occasion I was ably assisted by the Past Grands, and other members of "Orient" Lodge.

The second—"Eureka" Lodge, No. 15, was instituted on 29th December, at Spring Hill Mines, Cumberland County, by Brother Grand Secretary Chase, whom I had appointed special deputy for that purpose. There were thirteen applicants for this Charter—the brothers petitioning, having taken withdrawal cards from "Scotia" and "Fuller" Lodges in Pictou County. Brother Chase was accompanied by several brothers from "Orient" Lodge on this interesting occasion, who were greatly delighted with the trip to and from that thriving locality, and with their kindly reception and brotherly treatment.

The third—"Western Star" Lodge, No. 16, was instituted at Annapolis, on 11th March last, in the capital of the County known and famed all the world over for its luscious fruits—its apples, pears, and plums—as well as for its rich and varied agricultural and other products. On this occasion I was ably assisted by a goodly number of my "Orient" brothers. There were 11 Charter members, who had been initiated into "Orient" Lodge, and had the several Degrees conferred by dispensation, so as to enable them to have the lodge formed in that beautiful locality as soon as possible.

The fourth—"Moore" Lodge, No. 17, was instituted by me at Vale Colliery, in Pictou County, on the 7th April last, there being five applicants for the Charter, who had taken withdrawal cards from their mother lodges in other parts of the County, to organize and unfurl our banner in that newly opened district. On this occasion I was most heartily assisted by some 60 or 70 brothers from the neighboring lodges, who had come by special train for the purpose of aiding and assisting in the various and solemnly impressive ceremonies.

These four Lodges have begun their career under very favorable circumstances. Let us try to cherish and aid them in every way we can. I may here state for the credit and honor of "Orient" Lodge, that they donated all the fees for Initiations and for Degrees to the lodges formed by the brothers joining "Excelsior" and "Western Star" Lodges, who were initiated into, took their Degrees and Cards from that lodge for the purpose of extending the Order; and it is but just in this connection to make most honorable mention also of the brothers of "Scotia" Lodge, as well as those of "Fuller," who not only donated sums of money, but presented paraphernalia and other requisites to "Eureka" and "Moore" Lodges, even lending their officers and other regalia, &c., until their own was ready.

The brothers forming these newly instituted lodges cheerfully paid the Charter fees at the time of their organization, and I would recommend that Charters be at once voted to these several lodges, as they are at present working under dispensation.

APPEALS.

There are no appeals so far as I am aware; showing, I hope, most conclusively, that all our brothers over our widely extended jurisdiction, understand and allow themselves to be governed by our heaven-born principles. Long may this state of brotherly love continue.

VISITATIONS,

In accordance with a pledge given, when I accepted this honorable and responsible office, I endeavored to visit all the Lodges in the jurisdiction during my term of office. This, I regret to say, I have been unable to fulfil. A year ago we had ten working Lodges; of that number I have visited seven, viz: Eastern Star, No. 2; Widows' Hope, No. 7; St. Lawrence, No. 8; Pioneer, No. 9; Orient, No. 10; Scotia, No. 11; and Beacon, No. 12. Those I have been unable to visit, were "Fuller," No. 5; "Norton," No. 6; and "Victoria," No. 13.

My official visit to Eastern Star Lodge was a very pleasant one. I installed their officers on the 1st instant, found the Lodge well attended, and the officers elect men of the right stamp.

Widows' Hope, at Truro, was visited by me in January last, and again on the 3rd instant, on which occasions I installed their officers. This Lodge, though not large, is improving, and I feel our Truro brothers are now striving to hold up our banner.

St. Lawrence Lodge at Charlottetown, the capital of "the tight little Island," is somewhat isolated from the other Lodges, even although it may be said to occupy a central position. This Lodge deserves great praise for working so cheerfully and well. They have a good, well-fitted lodge-room, and are growing. I received a very hearty and cordial reception from my St. Lawrence brothers, besides a more substantial token of their appreciation of my visit. And were I permitted to offer a suggestion, it would be this: Hold, if possible, your next Annual Communication in "the Garden of the Gulf." It will be found central and of easy access, both by our Nova Scotia as well as our New Brunswick brethren. The facilities for travel by that time will be greatly improved, and I think I am safe in warranting a cordial greeting, with a brother's hand and a brother's welcome.

Pioneer, No. 9, is at St. John, N. B. I found nothing here but what I had been led to expect—a band of loving, active, live brothers! and working with a will. This Lodge is "The Banner Lodge" in every sense of the term. I would that the brothers of all our subordinates were actuated and governed by the same motives and principles as "The Pioneer Boys."

Orient Lodge, No. 10, has been doing good work during the past year. They have much to contend with; so many inducements to keep them from their Lodge, while many of them are young men whose time is not their own. Their attendance, on that account, cannot but be somewhat irregular, and most of their present officers are young Odd Fellows, who, I trust, are determined to excel their seniors in years, as well as in their membership in the Lodge. This Lodge, Orient No. 10, having been presented with a Grand Representative's Regalia by a Past Grand Representative of this Grand Lodge, John A. Fuller, Esq., of New Minas, King's County, desires me to present said regalia to this Grand Lodge, with his best wishes for its prosperity and advancement.

Scotia, No. 11, at Westville, is a good Lodge. The brothers work with a will, and work well. I visited them, by special invitation, on the 2nd instant, and was most cordially received. I had granted a dispensation to them for a

procession, and a Public Installation—both of which were held. Their large hall—the largest in the place—was crowded to its utmost capacity at the Installation ceremonies—a majority of the audience being ladies. After the ceremonies, short addresses were given by several brothers on the principles and some of the peculiarities of the Order, which I hope will induce a large accession to their roll of membership.

Beacon Lodge, No. 12—an offshoot from Pioneer—is, I believe, composed of just as good men as those they left behind, if they are not as large in number. They are, I am very certain, as large in size, and as open and big-hearted, as any in the Order, and as willing and able to work. These two latter Lodges occupy the same lodge-room, and I am pleased to say work most harmoniously.

I visited Excelsior Lodge, No. 14, officially, on the 14th May last, and was accompanied by Grand Secretary Chase. I found the Lodge, and all their paraphernalia and regalia in good order, and the brothers willing to work. On the 9th inst., I visited them again, and installed their officers for the current term. I was accompanied by a number of Orient Lodge brothers, who assisted in the ceremonies, and we had a very hearty, but *rather warm*, reception; found the brothers attentive to their duties, working, as their name indicates “upward and onward.” The Orient brothers were all but *melted* with the warmth of their reception.

Fuller, Norton, and Victoria, although not overtaken by me, will, I trust, be visited very early after this session closes by a better man—my successor.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted several dispensations during my term of office—the granting of all of which I believed were for the best interests, and for the promotion and extension of our Order in these Provinces. July 28th, granted dispensation to Orient to confer Degrees on Dr. Fullerton, to qualify him for the office of Recording Secretary. Nov. 3rd, granted said Lodge another, to confer Degrees on Brothers Carver, Corbin, Forcade, Leadley, and Douglas, to enable them to become petitioners for a Charter to institute the Lodge at Dartmouth (Excelsior), November 21st. Granted dispensation to Excelsior Lodge to elect and initiate, if elected, and confer Degrees on the same evening—so as to have their several offices filled with the least possible delay. Granted dispensations early in January to Brother P. G. Master Mitchell, to install officers of Fuller Lodge, at Stellarton; also to Brother K. J. McKenzie, to install officers of Scotia, No. 11, at Westville; and also to Brother Wm. Ross, to install officers of Norton Lodge at New Glasgow. April 13, granted one to Orient Lodge, to confer Degrees on Brother James Hyson, before leaving the Province; 25th June, one to Scotia Lodge, No. 11, to have Procession and Public Installation; 16th July, one to P. G. Master Brother James Mitchell, to install officers of Fuller Lodge, New Glasgow; all of which I trust this Grand Lodge will approve and confirm.

DECISIONS.

No question of any importance has been raised during the year, whether as regards Constitution, Bye-Law, or usage.

Deputy Grand Master Robertson asked the following question on the 28th November last: “Can any part of the Minutes of a Lodge be expunged by vote of the Lodge after the Minutes have been confirmed?” I answered: No! Nothing ought to be expunged or erased after being confirmed by a Lodge. The Lodge may, by a vote, neutralize preceding actions. Were such to be allowed no record would or could be safe.”

Our D. D. Grand Masters Robertson, Hockin, and Stumbles, will certainly report themselves and their doings to this Grand Lodge.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Our Grand Representative, Brother Yorston, will certainly report his visit to the Grand Lodge of the United States, and amplify the secret work.

Our Grand Secretary Chase will also, as a special Deputy, report himself as having instituted Eureka Lodge at Spring Hill Mines, in December last, and give this Grand Lodge a full and detailed statement of the income and expenditure, and other financial information usual on such an occasion, with amount of stock on hand, &c.

I have to specially thank the Committee on "Laws of Subordinates,"—Representatives Robertson, Barnes and Ellis—for their promptitude in attending to the duties devolving on them.

I have also much pleasure in announcing to my brother Representatives the organization and institution of MILICITE ENCAMPMENT, No. 11, located at St. John, New Brunswick, within the last week or two. It has been instituted under most favorable auspices, there having been 22 Charter members initiated, and 15 new proposals on the first night of meeting after their formation. I expect, nay, I am certain, that great good will result to the Order at large, and specially to the Lodges in New Brunswick, from the influences likely to go out from this upper branch of our Order, and the more especially, as the brothers who have taken it in hand are of "the never-say-die" class, and, knowing their temperament as I do, I say they must and will succeed.

I have further to report, that the several Lodges were supplied with ten copies of the "Journal of Proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the past three years;" also, each with a copy of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the United States. The new Lodges were also supplied with the same documents.

I would take the liberty of suggesting to this Grand Lodge the propriety of making an effort, through our Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States, at the next Annual Communication, to have the privilege of opening the doors of our Grand Lodge to members of our subordinate Lodges, as spectators; that the same concession be made to our subordinates that are made by other, so called, secret societies, that is: admission to all in good standing, and in possession of the T. P. W., as being likely to induce a greater interest in the doings of this Grand body.

I would add another word, with reference to the extension of our Order in these Provinces, and would say it for the consideration of my successor and his associate officers. We have many places throughout these Lower Provinces large enough to sustain a good Lodge of the Independent Order. I may mention Amherst, Berwick, Canning, Kentville, Windsor, Liverpool, Yarmouth, and North Sydney, as well as Sydney proper. With friends in some of these places I have been in correspondence. I hope the field will be cultivated here, and in many equally good localities in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

I would also direct the attention of this Grand Lodge to another institution in connection with our Order. I refer to "The Odd Fellows' Beneficial Association," organized some months ago by our brothers in New Brunswick. The object of this Association is "The Creation and Perpetuation of a Fund for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of its members." It has my very best wishes for its prosperity, and I would most earnestly recommend all my brother Representatives to give the Prospectus and Rules their careful consideration. These, I believe, will be forwarded to any brother, or Lodge, who may wish further information on the subject. It may not be altogether perfect in its every detail yet; it is certainly a valuable addition to the already numerous list of Life Assurance agencies that commands so much attention at the present time. This "Aid Association" is *simplicity itself*, and any one can understand

its principles at a glance. I believe our worthy brother Past Grand Master Barnes will be most happy to communicate with any brother seeking more light on the subject.

I cannot close without thanking all my brothers, members of this Grand Lodge, as well as those of the subordinates, with whom I have come into contact, whether personally or by correspondence, for their uniform kindness and forbearance, and for the cordial and hearty reception I have everywhere received at their hands. I have not done as much as I could have wished. I have sins of omission and sins of commission to answer for. These, I honestly assure you, have been of the head and not of the heart. I trust my successor will be more successful in his work than I have been in all I have attempted for the prosperity and extension of Odd Fellowship.

Thanking you most sincerely and heartily for the great, unexpected, and altogether undeserved honor you have conferred upon me; for expressions of kindly sympathy in the afflictive dispensation I was called upon to pass through, in the removal by death of my dear wife, receive my heartfelt gratitude and sincere thanks.

Trusting that your earnest and best attention will be given to all matters that may be brought before us during our present session, and that the result of our labors and deliberations may redound to the glory of our beneficent Grand Master, our own honor, the advancement of the best interests of our Order, and the good of all the Lodges throughout our borders, is this very imperfect report submitted, in the bonds of our Order,

Friendship, Love, and Truth.

HENRY A. TAYLOR, *Grand Master.*

With the Grand Master's Report were submitted the Reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters as follows :

(a)

To the Most Worthy Grand Master of the R. W. Grand Lodge, L. P. B. N. A., I. O. O. F. :

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I beg leave to submit a report of the Order, and the work done in this district.

I am happy to be able to report that so perfect has been the harmony and concord which has existed during my incumbency, that my duties have been of the lightest possible nature.

Owing to circumstances, unavoidable, I have not been able to visit the Lodges in my district as often as desirable; still, as I have had frequent opportunities for getting information as to their working, I am able to report them in good condition, and faithfully carrying out the objects for which our beloved Order was instituted.

No questions have been submitted for my decision.

I have granted a dispensation to Fuller Lodge to confer Degrees in less time than required by law.

A case occurred in Eastern Star Lodge where a seafaring brother was about to leave the place, and desired to get the Degrees, and the Noble Grand conferred them without any dispensation, stating as his reason that you had decided it was not necessary.

In January last I installed, personally, the officers of Eastern Star; also visited New Glasgow to install the officers of Norton Lodge, but found election affairs so occupied the attention of the officers elect they could not be present for installation. I therefore returned home, and asked you to send a special commission for that purpose.

Owing to the extreme mildness of the weather, which made the crossing of our harbor dangerous, and the roads impassable, I was unable to install in the other Lodges, which was done by special commission from you.

In July I installed, personally, the officers of Norton Lodge. This Lodge has been among the sufferers of the late disastrous fire, the building in which their lodge-room was situated being among those destroyed. They have, however, saved a large proportion of their paraphernalia, &c., and are again in good working order.

Accompanied by Past Grand Pringle, of Eastern Star, P. G. Master Mitchell, and P. G. Turnbull, of Fuller, P. G. McGregor and McConnell, of Norton, I visited Moore Lodge, Vale Colliery, for installation. The officers, in this case, were re-elected, as I believe is the privilege of a new Lodge. This Lodge promises well, and the officers are well up in their work, &c. A very handsome set of officers' regalia had just been received by them from the United States. The lodge-room, however, is I think not all that could be desired. I fear the one layer of boards for a floor, in which several of the knots have fallen out, is not sufficient to prevent the escape of sound.

Fuller Lodge was also visited, and their officers installed by me. Everything here was satisfactory; the meeting was a fair one; the officers installed, men of the right stamp.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the Past Grands and brothers of Lodges visited for the uniform kindness shown me—especially P. G. McG. P. Chisholm, also to Secretary Love, of Moore Lodge, for hospitality to self and friends.

Yours in F. L. and T.

ROBERT HOCKIN, D. D. G. M., County of Pictou.

(b)

To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of the Lower Provinces, B. N. A.

WORTHY BROTHER,—Having been honored with the office of D. Deputy Grand Master for New Brunswick, during the past year, it is again my privilege to submit my Report for your approval.

Owing to the Digest of the Laws of the Grand Lodge, U. S., dealing with nearly every question that comes before a Lodge, I have had very little to do during the year. The following is a summary of my official acts within the year:

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

Jan. 2, 1874,	Installed the Officers of Pioneer Lodge, No. 9, St. John.
" 5, "	" " Victoria " No. 13, Fredericton.
" 6, "	" " Beacon " No. 12, St. John.
July 3, "	" " Pioneer " No. 9, "
" 7, "	" " Beacon " No. 12, "
" 13, "	" " Victoria " No. 13, "

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year I granted two dispensations to Pioneer Lodge, No. 9; two to Beacon Lodge, No. 12; and three to Victoria Lodge, No. 13; for the purpose of allowing them to confer Degrees in less time than that provided in the Constitution, it being, in my opinion, for the good of the Order to do so.

DECISIONS.

On December 1st, 1873, I received a communication from Beacon Lodge, No. 12, asking for my decision on the following point: "Whether or no a Lodge can, in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, expunge a certain portion of the Minutes of a Lodge, which has been entered on the Records,

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or confirmed in the usual manner? or if we can in any way deal with the facts of confirmed Minutes, so as to strike out the same, and expunge the parts objectionable therefrom?

I decided that a Lodge has no power to expunge any part or parts of their Records, after said Records have been confirmed by the Lodge.

APPEALS.

On April 2nd, I received an appeal from W. K. Dimock, P. G., against the decision of Pioneer Lodge, No. 9, the substance of which is as follows: A Committee was appointed by Pioneer Lodge to make arrangements for celebrating the Anniversary of the Order. A motion was afterwards made that the Committee take no further action in the matter at present. The Noble Grand ruled the motion out of order, on the ground that it was a reconsideration of the original motion, and that the mover did not vote in the majority. On an appeal being taken, the Lodge sustained the Noble Grand in his ruling.

I sustained the appeal of P. G. Dimock.

STATE OF THE ORDER.

I am happy to inform you that the Lodges in New Brunswick are in a very healthy state, and have done a large amount of work during the year, as will be seen by the Grand Secretary's Report.

The Encampment branch of the Order has been instituted in St. John during the present month, and has started under very favorable auspices.

The Odd Fellows' Beneficial Association of the Lower Provinces of B. N. A., was organized at St. John on the 1st of April last, and is now in good working order. I would strongly urge the Representatives at the meeting to press upon the members of their respective Lodges the great benefits of this Beneficial Association, whereby they can secure a competency for their families at a less rate than by any other kind of insurance, and also take a great responsibility off the Lodges.

In conclusion, I return my sincere thanks to the officers and members of the Lodges in New Brunswick for the courtesy with which I have always been received by them, as the representative of the Grand Lodge in this District.

Respectfully submitted in F. L. and T.

ALEX. ROBERTSON,

D. Deputy Grand Master.

St. John, N. B., July 20th, 1874.

(c)

To Henry A. Taylor, Esq., R. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the L. P., B. N. A., I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—According to your instructions in dispensation, granted December 29th, 1873, I proceeded to Spring Hill Mines, in company with K. J. Dolphin, H. N. Wright, and W. Bannister, of Orient Lodge, No. 10. On arriving at Truro, we fell in with a number of brothers from Fuller Lodge, Stellarton, when we all proceeded to Spring Hill Mines, and on the evening of the 30th December, 1873, instituted and installed the officers of Eureka Lodge, No. 15, with thirteen Charter members; after which I initiated eleven new members, when the Lodge closed in Friendship, Love, and Truth. After which we all sat down to a sumptuous repast prepared by the brothers of this young and promising Lodge, which we all enjoyed most heartily. On the 31st December we all left Spring Hill, leaving our brothers of the new Lodge with a donation of \$25.00 in cash, a Past Grand's regalia, and other paraphernalia, each brother exclaiming, Eureka! Eureka! we have found it!

I also, according to your dispensation, granted on the 6th day of July inst., proceeded on the 7th inst. to Annapolis, and installed the officers of Western Star Lodge, No. 16, on the evening of the same day, and left the brothers the day following with a bright and glorious future before them.

All of which is respectfully submitted in F. L. and T.

W. F. CHASE, *Grand Sec'y and Treas.*

Reps. W. Kilby Dimock, of Pioneer, No. 9, and C. S. Brannen, of Victoria, No. 13, were reported in waiting.

On motion, it was resolved that the Grand Lodge Degree be conferred on these brothers in the ante-room, and Grand Marshal Barnes and Grand Warden proceeded to the ante-room, conferred the Degree, and introduced the brothers.

Moved by Rep. Yorston, seconded by Rep. A. Robertson, and resolved, that a special Committee of three be appointed to apportion the different subjects referred to in Grand Master's Report, to the proper Committees.

Reps. James Mitchell, J. P. Irving, and I. A. Grant, were appointed such Committee.

On motion of Rep. Murdoch, seconded by Rep. Yorston, the Reports of D. D. Grand Masters, and the Special Deputy's Report, were referred to Committee on Grand Master's Report.

On motion, Grand Lodge adjourned, to meet at 2.30 p. m.

ORIENT LODGE ROOM, 2.30, P. M.

The R. W. Grand Lodge opened with prayer by Grand Chaplain, Grand Master Taylor, presiding.

Minutes of the morning session read and approved, after some minor alterations.

The Right Worthy Grand Representative, Bro. James Yorston, submitted his Report.

REPORT OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVE.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the Lower Provinces, B. N. A., I. O. O. F.

BROTHERS,—As your representative, I attended the session of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States, held in Baltimore, Maryland, commencing Monday, Sept. 15th, 1874, and ending Saturday, Sept. 20th.

Pursuant to notice, the Representatives met in Barnum's Hotel, where they were formed into procession by the Grand Marshal, and escorted from thence to Odd Fellows' Hall, by the Maryland Encampment, assisted by Bunker Hill Encampment, of Charlestown, who came specially for the purpose of doing escort duty. The attendance was large, comprising 5 Past Grand Sires, 7 Officers, and 124 Representatives. All the officers were present excepting C. A. Logan, Esq., M. W. Grand Sire, who was absent as United States Minister to Chili, South America. M. J. Durham, Deputy Grand Sire, presided, and a large amount of important business was transacted.

I have much pleasure in submitting the following synopsis of the proceedings:

DECISIONS.

During the year the Grand Sire made the following decisions:—

First. Do officers who were first elected at a special session of a Grand Encampment, for the purpose of institution and installation of officers, on the 1st day of July last (1872), hold their positions until the first regular session (October, 1872), or until some future session?

Answer. The official term of Grand Officers is twelve months, and they must serve a major period of the term, or they are not entitled to the past honors. In the case referred to, the officers have served only a little over three months; they must, therefore, continue service until the next regular session of the Grand Encampment. (See Digest, par. 1288.)

Second. As this is a case of much interest, which will probably come before you in the form of an appeal from the action of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, I append a copy of the communication transmitted to me by the Grand Master of Tennessee, together with my answer thereto, marked Nos. 5 and 6.*

The point decided by me was as to the *status* of Bro. John M. Alvord, in his Lodge during the pendency of the appeal, my

Answer being declaratory of the general principle that a member, in his *status*, remains where he is left by the legal action of his Lodge, until the highest tribunal of appeal resorted to, shall have rendered its decision.

I recommend a careful perusal of the papers acted upon, and the framing of a general law to meet future cases.

Third. The general principle involved in this decision is analogous to the preceding. A Subordinate Lodge refuses a member benefits. The Grand Lodge of the State reverses the decision, and an appeal is taken by the subordinate to the Grand Lodge of the United States. To the question "Must the Lodge pay the dues?" I gave as

Answer, That the decision of the Lodge must stand until reversed by the highest tribunal of appeal, and it cannot be forced, therefore, to pay the dues until the case is finally decided against the subordinate. The correspondence, being of interest, is attached hereto, marked Nos. 7. and 8.

Fourth. The Constitution of a State Grand Body can only be amended in the manner prescribed by the Constitution itself.

Fifth. Neither a Grand Lodge, or any body subordinate to the Grand Lodge of the United States, can change the terms of officers.

These two latter inquiries came from the State of Wisconsin, and, as the first of them may come before you in another form, I append the correspondence. (No. 9.)

* Nos. in this refer to proceedings of Grand Lodge of the U. S. for 1873.

Sixth. This is the question referred to in my remarks on the power of Grand Bodies in relation to contiguous subordinates, and the correspondence in full is herewith submitted. (Nos. 3 and 4).

Seventh. The law requiring that officers shall wear *jewels*, it is not a compliance therewith to have them "*wrought in the regalia.*"

Additional legislation being needed, a copy of my letter is added. (No. 10.)

These were referred to the Committee on the State of the Order, who reported the following which was adopted.

The Committee on the State of the Order, to whom was referred the decisions of the M. W. Grand Sire made during the recess, and so much of his report as relates to Mutual Aid Associations, respectfully report that they recommend the approval of the 1st, 4th, 5th, and 7th decisions as correct expositions of the law. The second decision is also approved, but in order that it may be correctly understood, it is necessary that a statement of facts should be made.

The Noble Grand of a Lodge declared a brother dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues. The Lodge subsequently took action and reversed this decision of the Noble Grand, and the minority appealed to the Grand Lodge, which was confirmatory of the Lodge. The minority then appealed to the Grand Lodge of the United States. A statement of the case was made on behalf of the minority and presented to the Grand Master of the jurisdiction, who was requested to suspend the reinstatement of the brother pending the appeal. The Grand Master declined for want of power, and presented the case to the Grand Sire, who decided that the decision of the Grand Lodge upon the matter must stand until reversed by the Grand Lodge of the United States; and hence that the brother remained a member of the Lodge, not suspended or dropped from the roll. This decision was undoubtedly correct. See Digest, sections 100, 816.

The third decision your Committee cannot sanction, and recommend that it be reversed. The general principle is the same as is involved in the preceding, but the decision is directly the reverse. It is necessary also to state the facts in this case. "A Subordinate Lodge refuses benefits to a member. The Grand Lodge of the State reversed the decision. The subordinate takes an appeal to the Grand Lodge of the United States." The question is, does the appeal to the Grand Lodge of the United States stop the payment of the benefits? The Grand Sire decides that "the action of the subordinate body is conclusive until reversed by the highest tribunal to which it appeals. In the case mentioned, the subordinate refused payment, and appeals were taken, first to the Grand Lodge of the State, and then to the Grand Lodge of the United States, the question being still undecided against the subordinate. There is no law compelling it to make an adverse decision against itself by payment of the dues against its own construction of law or duty."

This is wrong. The appeal did *not* remain undecided against the subordinate, as is assumed by the Grand Sire. The State Grand Lodge *did* decide against the subordinate, and said that the brother was entitled to benefits, and the subordinate was bound to obey the mandate of its superior, the State Grand Lodge, and in the absence of any local law providing for a stay of proceedings pending the appeal, was bound to pay the benefits, in accordance with the decision, on payment being demanded. State Grand Lodges may undoubtedly provide for a stay pending an appeal in such cases, or for the payment of the amount due into the State Grand Lodge to abide the decision of the Grand Lodge of the United States. The decision of the Grand Lodge, above referred to in the Digest, Section 100, fully establishes this principle. If it be said the Lodge may not be able to recover back the money in case the Grand Lodge of the United States decides in its favor, we answer that this is the fault of the local authorities in not providing for a stay of proceedings in such cases.

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The sixth decision is correct, and it is fully set forth and disposed of in the report of the Legislative Committee, page 5687 Journal.

In conclusion we have but to say that we deem it inexpedient at this time to legislate upon the subject of Mutual Aid Associations. It seems better to wait and see the result of the experiments made in that direction by the voluntary associations now organized for mutual assistance.

STATISTICS.

The Report of the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary was as interesting and comprehensive as usual, occupying 144 pages of the Journal. I extract the general returns of 1871 and 1872 compared, with his very interesting remarks thereon:

GENERAL RETURNS OF 1871 AND 1872 COMPARED.

(January 1, 1871, to December 31, 1872.)

Lodges.....	1871	4,292 00	Increase.
".....	1872	5,045 00	753 00
Initiations.....	1871	49,257 00	
".....	1872	59,250 00	9,993 00
Revenue, G. Lodge and G. Encampment.....	1871	8,310,009 53	
" " " " ".....	1872	4,291,071 12	981,061 59
Relief, " " " " ".....	1871	1,092,095 42	
" " " " ".....	1872	1,503,471 40	411,375 98
Members.....	1871	327,877 00	
".....	1872	385,097 00	57,220 00

THE OUTLOOK.

These figures show gains which justly excite our pride. But whilst we exult with becoming gratitude at the rich reward which has crowned our labor, let us not fail to appreciate the moral which "gilds the prosperous hour." It is "the end which crowns the work." We must toil on, as our fathers toiled before us, if we would assure to our efforts endurance, vigor, length of years, immortality. We are building up an improved civilization, in fact, a great moral empire. In co-operation with the noble spirit of benevolence which marks the age, we are adding our rich contributions to the general welfare. As the world moves, and its needs expand, there must be a corresponding supply. This supply is met by the progress of society, by the progress of individuals, by the elevation and amelioration of men and women, in the continuous development of mind, and in the application of its reward to the ever shifting drama of life. Odd-Fellowship has been, during fifty years, in this great field. What are its fruits? If we cast our eyes upon the broad and beautiful expanse of our happy country we are greeted on every hand by a response to this inquiry, which comes ringing from afar off with electric power. Wherever our people have penetrated, in whatever distant or perilous quarter, even to the remotest frontier, do our temples lift their spires and our workmen toil. As the wilderness passes from chaos to order, and system follows in the footsteps of civilization, does Odd-Fellowship supply its aid to the great transition. Nor do these offerings limit their sphere to home, to country, or nationality. Wide as the world is our scope, and free as the air is our welcome to the children of men. Scattered far away, distant thousands of miles from the birth-place of Odd-Fellowship, do its conquests extend, and does its broad catholic spirit seek larger fields and more distant climes. A work of such magnitude is not the reward of a day or generation, but is for all time, for all peoples, and for humanity. Time is the great regulator, the balance-wheel which adjusts the moral as well as the material world; it is the stern winnower which separates

the chaff from the wheat. By its authority virtue survives and vice falls. To it, analysis and philosophical processes, systems, doctrines, dogmas and theories of every kind must stand. As it rolls on, its tests are in motion, evolving and revolving, until in its own fulness truth is delivered from error. To this ordeal do we confidently submit. Thus is civilization advanced. In this struggle have we gallantly toiled as a band of brothers, impelled only by the instinctive law of love. We have covered every habitable part of our own happy land with laborers in this great cause; have carried our system to Germanic Europe, to Switzerland, to the Islands of the Pacific Ocean, to the continents of South America and Australia, and it is simply a question of time when Odd-Fellowship shall dwell all over the world. Considering the relation of human events with each other in all the past, this sentiment is natural as well as logical. From this standpoint our system of human beneficence is but in its childhood, and however great the distance which our fathers may have advanced it, the prize which is before us, if we labor on, is immeasurably beyond.

HISTORY OF ODD-FELLOWSHIP.

A very interesting report was made on the above subject, which resulted in the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the R. W. Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary, James L. Ridgely, be and he is hereby requested to act as Historiographer of this Grand Lodge, who shall supervise and direct the preparation of a history of Odd-Fellowship for publication, under the direction of this Grand Lodge.
2. *Resolved*, That Grand and Subordinate Lodges and Grand and Subordinate Encampments, as well as each and every individual member of the Order, be and they are hereby requested to furnish all information within their control for the use of the Historiographer, including books, papers, charts, records, &c.
3. *Resolved*, That the sum of \$3000 be and the same is hereby appropriated for the payment of expenses attendant upon the performance of the duties imposed upon said officer, including such compensation as may be paid from time to time for his services, and for which he may be called upon to pay for the services of other persons who may be employed to aid him in the performance of his duties.
4. *Resolved*, That the said Historiographer shall be required to make an annual report of his acts and doings as such, at every annual session of this body. And this Committee shall consider said report and audit the accounts of said officer, and recommend such action on those matters to this Grand Body as they may deem proper.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

REVISED DEGREE BOOKS.

Resolved, That the Subordinate Degree book, the Rebekah Degree book, the Degree Lodge Installation, the Grand Lodge Charge book, the Subordinate Encampment Charge book, and the Grand Encampment Charge book, adopted as the unwritten work of the Order, at this session, printed in style and character of workmanship similar to former editions.

Resolved, That the above named works shall go into effect, and shall be the work of the Order in all Degree Lodges, Subordinate Encampments, Grand Lodges and Grand Encampments, on and after the 1st day of January, 1874.

Resolved, That all State and Territorial Grand Bodies be furnished with a sufficient number of the revised books adopted at this session, to replace those now on hand, as well as those to be exchanged with their subordinates, at fifty cents per copy, and that the same price be charged in exchange to all Lodges and Encampments immediately subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That after such exchanges shall have been made that the price of all—Charge, Degree, or Installation books—shall be one dollar and fifty cents per copy.

DUES AND BENEFITS.

On this subject a very able and valuable report was made, shewing most conclusively that our present system is not founded on a sound system of finance, and that it requires "immediate reconstruction." The report being too lengthy to quote (occupying several pages of the Journal), I only submit the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That this Committee be continued, with instructions to further report at the next session of this body.

Resolved, That the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary be directed to add to the items upon which reports are required to be made to this Grand Lodge, the following item, to wit: Number of weeks' sickness for which benefits were paid.

Resolved, That said Secretary place upon the margin of the form furnished this note:

This information can be easily procured by referring to the Order Book of the Lodge or Encampment. For instance, Bro. A. B. has been sick during the term twenty-six weeks, Bro. C. D. ten weeks, Bro. E. F. three weeks. The return is then made thus: Number of weeks' sickness for which benefits were paid, thirty-nine.

To make this report productive of some good result, your Committee have concluded it best to confine the present action of this Grand Lodge to a single but most important item in the series of facts essential to a complete system of dues and benefits. This one thing we can accomplish. The Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges will have no difficulty in filling the blank prepared in the resolution at the close of this report.

But we recommend to the several Grand Bodies under the jurisdiction of this Lodge to take steps to ascertain these additional facts, to wit:

- 1st. The number of members at each age.
- 2d. The amount of sick and funeral benefits, as shown by the constitutions and by-laws of each Lodge.
- 3d. The current expenses of each Lodge, separate from benefits and charities.
- 4th. The amount of productive property. That is, the total of real or personal property, notes, bonds or mortgages which yield a revenue, and can be used in the payment of benefits if necessary.

If a few of the older and larger jurisdictions would take hold of this subject in earnest, they would confer a lasting favor upon the whole Order, and do justice to themselves. Especially do we urge all jurisdictions to add to their returns this item—

CURRENT EXPENSES.

It is remarkable that very few jurisdictions—and your Committee have only found one, Ohio—require any report of the current expenses of subordinates. This will be found to be one great source of financial trouble. Twenty per cent. of the total revenue has been assumed to be the cost of current expense. From some calculations, we suspect thirty per cent. will be nearer the truth. The Grand Secretary of one strong jurisdiction states that forty-four per cent. is the average in his State. The facts on this point should be known, and the current expenses reduced to reasonable limits.

ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY.

It was—*Resolved*, That the R. W. Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint a subordinate in his office, to be called the "Assistant Grand Secretary," who shall be a competent book-keeper, who shall have charge of all supplies furnished by this Grand Lodge, receiving and disbursing the same. The said officer to be under the control of, and removable by the R. W. Grand Secretary; and in addition to the above services, he shall perform, generally, such duties as the R. W. Grand Secretary may direct. For such services he shall receive an annual salary not to exceed two thousand dollars, payable quarterly.

NOS. OF EXTINGUISHED LODGES.

It was—*Resolved*, "That any Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment may regulate the matter of the numbers of extinct Subordinate Lodges or Encampments in their respective jurisdictions that have been extinct more than twenty years, and any law that conflicts with this resolution is hereby repealed."

DEGREE OF REBEKAH.

It was—*Resolved*, That Grand Lodges, having Subordinate Degree Lodges of the Daughters of Rebekah, under their jurisdiction, shall require such Lodges to report annually, on the 31st of December, the information necessary to complete the returns required by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary be instructed to procure visiting cards for the use of the sisters of the Rebekah Degree; that the same be printed in a neat manner, on paper similar to the visiting cards for brothers of the Order, and that they be furnished State jurisdictions at the same price as other visiting cards.

Resolved, That hereafter there shall be no forfeiture of membership in Degree Lodges of the Daughters of Rebekah, except by such rules and usages as apply to brothers in Subordinate Lodges, and all legislation inconsistent with this resolution is hereby repealed.

SUNDAY LAW.

A motion was made to repeal the law passed at the previous session, generally known as the Sunday Law, which prohibits all Lodges and Encampments from holding any meeting for work or business on Sunday, except for funeral purposes, but it was lost by a decided majority.

NEXT SESSION.

It was unanimously resolved to hold the next meeting of the Grand Lodge at Atlanta, Georgia, commencing on the third Monday in September, 1874.

APPEALS.

Twenty-two appeals were presented, all of which were disposed of, excepting one from Ontario, which was postponed until next session.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

proposed at the session of 1873:—

By Rep. Porter, of California; seconded by Reps. Harcourt, of Texas; Wilcox, of Tennessee; Glenn, of Georgia; Washburn, of Tennessee; Edwards, of West Virginia:

Amend Article I, Sections 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9, so as to read as follows:

SECTION 2. It is the source of all true and legitimate jurisdiction relating to Odd-Fellowship in the United States of America, and possesses such powers over the whole brotherhood as are provided in the Constitution and Ritual of the Order. Its authority extends also to such Lodges as may be organized under its charter in foreign countries.

SEC. 3. By virtue of charters granted by it, all State, District and Territorial Grand Lodges exist, and with it rests the power, by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast, to deprive such State, District or Territorial Grand Lodges of their charters, and to annul their authority; *provided*, that such deprivation or annulment shall only be made for violation of the laws of this Grand Lodge. No more than one Grand Lodge shall be chartered in any State, District or Territory. All Grand Lodges working under charters granted by this Grand Lodge are supreme for all local legislation and appellate jurisdiction within their respective limits, except as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 4. With the consent of the Grand Lodge of a State, District or Territory, an appeal may be had by any Subordinate Lodge to the Grand Lodge; such consent, however, not being necessary when an expelled Lodge, after having surrendered to its Grand Lodge all its effects, appeals from its decision. Appeals may also be heard from a member or members of a State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge from the decision thereof; but in all cases the decision of the State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge shall be final, unless reversed by this Grand Lodge on a direct appeal therefrom.

SEC. 7. To this Grand Lodge belongs the immediate jurisdiction over all Subordinate Lodges in such countries, domestic or foreign, as are without Grand Lodges.

SEC. 9. All power and authority in the Order, not reserved to this Grand Lodge by this Constitution, is hereby vested in the various State, District and Territorial Grand Lodges.

Add to Article I the following:

SEC. 10. The number of degrees pertaining to Subordinate Lodges shall be nine, and shall be designated as follows: The Initiatory, the First or White, the Second or Covenant, the Third or Blue, the Fourth or Remembrance, the Fifth or Scarlet, the Sixth or Patriarchal, the Seventh or Golden Rule, and the Eighth or Royal Purple, and all Subordinate and Degree Lodges are authorized to confer said degrees.

Amend Article II, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 1. This Grand Lodge shall be composed of the following members, to wit: a Grand Sire, Deputy Grand Sire, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal, Grand Guardian, Grand Messenger and Grand Representatives from the several State, District or Territorial Grand Lodges, working under legal unclaimed charters granted by this Grand Lodge.

Amend Article IV, Sections 1 and 2, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 1. The Grand Sire shall preside at all meetings of the Grand Lodge, preserve order and enforce the law thereof. He shall have the casting vote whenever the Lodge shall be equally divided, other than upon a ballot for officers, but shall not vote on any other occasion. He shall appoint all committees not required to be raised by ballot, and appoint all District Deputy Grand Sires. During the recess of this Grand Lodge he shall have a general superintendence of the interests of the Order. He may hear and decide such appeals as may be submitted to him by the several State Grand Lodges, or by the Subordinate Lodges, under the immediate jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. He may hear and decide such questions, other than the questions arising out of the Constitutions of the several State, District and Territorial Grand Lodges, as may be submitted to him by the several State Grand Lodges, or by the Grand Masters thereof, or by the Grand Representatives, or by the Subordinate Lodges under the immediate jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and his decisions upon all appeals and questions so submitted to him shall be binding upon the Lodges or persons submitting the same until reversed by this Grand Lodge. He is empowered to receive petitions and grant warrants for the opening of new Lodges, Grand or Subordinate, in places where Grand Lodges established by this Grand Lodge may not exist; and all warrants so granted by him shall

be of force until recalled by this Grand Lodge. At every session of this Grand Lodge he shall submit a report in writing of all his official acts and decisions during the recess.

SEC. 2. During his term of service he shall not hold any office in any State, District or Territorial Grand or Subordinate Lodge.

Amend Article VI. so as to read as follows :

SEC. 1. The Grand Secretary shall make a just and true record of all the proceedings of the Grand Lodge in a book provided for that purpose; keep the journal of all secret sessions, and preserve and keep the evidences of the unwritten work, and such alterations as may, from time to time, be made therein, and all other records appertaining to the work of the Order, and the explanations and records relative thereto; summon the members to attend all special meetings; keep accounts between this Grand Lodge and the Grand and Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction; read all petitions, reports and communications; write all letters and communications; carry on under the direction of the Grand Lodge or Grand Sire, its correspondence, and transact such business of the Grand Lodge appertaining to his office, as may be required of him by the Grand Lodge. All communications transmitted or received by him, officially, shall be laid before the Grand Lodge. He shall receive for his services such compensation as the Grand Lodge shall from time to time determine.

Amend Article IX, Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 1. Grand Representatives shall be chosen by the several State, District and Territorial Grand Lodges, for the term of two years, and shall be divided into two classes, whose seats shall be vacated annually by rotation; and if vacancies occur by death, resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the Grand Lodge of any State, District or Territory, such vacancies shall be filled in the manner pointed out by the Constitution of such State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. Grand Representatives shall be appointed as follows: To every State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge, having under its jurisdiction one thousand or less members in good standing, one Grand Representative; to every State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge, having under its jurisdiction over one thousand members in good standing, one additional Representative for every additional one thousand members; *provided*, that no State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge shall have more than four Grand Representatives.

SEC. 3. A Grand Representative must be a Past Grand in good standing, and a member of a Lodge in good standing. He must have received the Royal Purple degree, and reside in the State, District or Territory in which the Grand Lodge which he represents is located.

SEC. 4. Grand Representatives shall be furnished, by the Grand Lodges which they represent, with such certificates as shall be required by law.

Amend Article XI, Section 3, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 3. Suspension or expulsion from the Subordinate Lodge to which an officer or member of this Grand Lodge belongs, shall operate as a suspension or expulsion from office or membership in this Grand Lodge, and the vacancy thereby created shall be filled in the manner hereinbefore prescribed.

Amend Article XIII, Section 1, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 1. Representatives from a majority of the whole number of State, District and Territorial Grand Lodges shall be necessary to form a quorum for the transaction of business: but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may receive and act upon the credentials of new members, except in contested elections.

Amend Article XIV. so as to read as follows:

1. Fees for charters of Grand or Subordinate Lodges working under its immediate jurisdiction, thirty dollars.

2. Dues from State, District or Territorial Grand Lodges, seventy-five dollars per annum for each vote they shall be entitled to in this Grand Lodge.

3. Dues from Subordinate Lodges working under the immediate jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, ten per cent. on their receipts.

Amend Article XV, Section 1, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 1. To be an officer of this Grand Lodge, one nominated must have received the Grand Lodge degree, and be a member in good standing of a Subordinate Lodge in good standing.

Amend Article XVI, Sections 1, 3 and 4, so as to read as follows:

SEC. 1. The members of the Order from each State, District or Territory, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to admission into the Lodges of any other State, District or Territory, upon proving themselves according to the established work of the Order and the production of a proper card.

SEC. 3. No citizen of one State, District or Territory, wherein Lodges are established, shall be admitted to membership in a Lodge of another State, District or Territory without the previous consent of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master of the State, District or Territory whereof such citizen is a resident.

SEC. 4. A member of the Order, suspended or expelled from a Lodge in a State, District or Territory, shall not be admitted to membership in a Lodge in another State, District or Territory, without the previously obtained consent of the Lodge from which he is suspended and expelled; *provided, however*, that when it shall be satisfactorily represented to the Grand Lodge of the United States that the necessities of a State, District or Territorial Grand Jurisdiction require it, a resolution may be passed by a vote of three-fourths of the Representatives present at any meeting, granting to the particular State, District or Territorial Grand Jurisdiction applying therefor, the right to readmit to membership within its jurisdiction, upon such conditions as this Grand Lodge may prescribe, suspended members of the Order residing in the same, who may have been suspended for non-payment of dues, and who have not been under suspension for less than three years; and also the right to admit members of defunct Lodges not able to get a card; it being distinctly understood that so soon as the necessity requiring it shall have passed away, this privilege shall be yielded up by the jurisdiction receiving it.

Amend Article XX, so as to read as follows:

This Constitution and the By-Laws which shall be made in pursuance thereof, shall be the supreme law of the Order, and be binding upon the State, District and Territorial Grand Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; *provided*, that none of the amendments herewith proposed and submitted, except said Section 10, Article I, shall go into operation until two years from the 1st of January next after the adoption of such amendments; *and provided*, that said Section 10 of Article I, shall not go into operation until one year from the 1st day of January next after its adoption.—PAGE 5763.

By Rep. McKinstry, of Alabama; seconded by Reps. White, of New York; Carter, of Ohio; Lindenberg, of Ohio; Noltner, of Oregon; Porter, of Massachusetts; Stokes, of Pennsylvania; Dowden, of Kentucky;

Amend Article I, Section 1, by striking out the words "of the United States," so that it shall read:

ARTICLE I. SEC. 1. This Lodge shall be known by the name, style and title of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.—PAGE 5791.

By Rep. Ryan, of Wisconsin, seconded by Reps. Empie, of Kansas; Rankin, of Michigan, and Smith, of Illinois:

Amend Article XVI, section 2, by adding thereto as follows:

"And provided further, that State Grand Bodies may provide by legislation

for the admission to membership of Indians, or persons of Indian descent, in whole or in part, who have abandoned their tribal relations," so that the section will read :

SECTION 2. No person shall be entitled to admission to the Order except free white males of good moral character, who may have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and who believe in a Supreme Being, the creator and preserver of the universe ; *provided, however,* that in Australia, New Zealand, and other countries not on the continent of North America, in which the Order has been or may hereafter be established, and a Grand Lodge or Grand Lodges formed, the qualifications as to age shall be left to local legislation ; *and provided further,* that State Grand Bodies may provide by legislation for the admission to membership of Indians, or persons of Indian descent, in whole or in part, who have abandoned their tribal relations.—PAGE 5957.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Relations made the following report, which was adopted :

Your Committee on Foreign Relations have had under consideration the subject of introducing the Order into Austria. The correspondence of the Grand Secretary with Bro. Wollheim, Grand Sire of the Grand Lodge of the German Empire, discloses the fact that a number of worthy men in Vienna have petitioned him for the establishment of a Lodge of this Order at that place ; and the Grand Sire Wollheim urges that this Grand Lodge take steps to obtain permission from the Government of Austria to introduce the Order there.

The reasons for establishing the Order in Germany and Switzerland, and other foreign countries, apply equally to Austria, and your Committee recommend the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the Grand Sire and Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary apply to the Government of Austria for permission to establish this Order within that Empire.

Resolved, That if such permission be granted, then the Grand Sire of "The Grand Lodge of the German Empire" be authorized to institute Subordinate Lodges and Encampments of this Order in Austria, and that said Subordinate Lodges and Encampments, when instituted, be attached to the jurisdiction of said Grand Lodge of the German Empire, if said subordinates so desire, until further action in the premises by this Grand Lodge.

PRESENTATIONS.

Our highly esteemed Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary Ridgley, was presented with a Silver Brick by Rep. White, of Nevada, and a very curious Emblematic Cane by the Representatives of Tennessee ; both were accompanied by eloquent addresses.

CONCLUSION.

REPRESENTATIVES : I have thus endeavored to lay before you such legislation passed by the Grand Lodge as I think will be of interest to the membership throughout this jurisdiction. Thanking you for the honor of representing you in such a body as the Grand Lodge of the United States,

I remain fraternally yours,

JAMES YORSTON,

Grand Representative.

On motion of Rep. Richards, seconded by Rep. Dimock, the Report was received, and ordered to be published with proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The R. W. Grand Secretary read his Report, and subsequently asked for further time to perfect it.

On motion of Rep. Alex. Robertson, seconded by Rep. Richards, such time was granted.

A communication was read from the Secretary of Orient Lodge, inviting the Grand Lodge to dine in Hesslin's Building that evening.

On motion of Rep. Barnes, seconded by Rep. McConnell, the invitation was accepted.

Accounts were presented by Reps. Hockin, Robertson, and from Mr. McNab, which were referred to Finance Committee.

The Committee on credentials reported J. Wesley Boyd as entitled to a seat in the Grand Lodge. This report was ruled out of order, as Rep. Boyd was already a representative of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's Report to apportion, reported as follows :

Your Committee on the Report of the Most Worthy Grand Master, having examined the said Report, beg leave to express to this Right Worthy Lodge their opinion that this Report is as full and satisfactory as it possibly could be, and would recommend the following disposition of the matters therein referred to.

1st. So much as refers to Decisions and General Dispensations, to the Legislative Committee.

2d. So much as refers to Dispensations for New Lodges, to a special Committee of five.

3d. So much as refers to the "Odd Fellows Beneficial Society," Visitations, and all other matters, to the Committee on the State of the Order.

We would also beg leave to make the following disposition of D. D. Grand Master Robertson's Report :

1st. So much as refers to Dispensations, to the Committee on Legislation.

2d. So much as refers to Appeals, to the Committee on Appeals, and the balance to the Committee on the State of the Order.

And of the D. D. Grand Master Hockin's Report as follows :

To the Committee on Legislation, so much thereof as refers to granting Dispensations, and the special case therein referred to.

To the Committee on New Lodges, so much as refers to Moore Lodge, and to the Committee on the State of the Order the balance of said Report.

ISAAC A. GRANT, }
JOHN P. IRVING, } Committee.
JAMES MITCHELL, }

On motion, the Report was adopted.

The Committee on the Laws of Subordinate Lodges submitted a Report. On motion of Rep. Murdoch, seconded by Rep. Hockin, the Report was recommitted to amend according to instructions.

Moved by Rep. Murdoch, according to notice given in the Session of 1873, that Article XIII, Section 1, be altered to read as follows :

Any amendment or alteration may be made to this Constitution, at any regular Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, by a vote of two-thirds of the Representatives present : *Provided* all such amendments or alterations shall be proposed in writing, and placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary, at least three months before action is taken thereon ; and also, that the Grand Secretary shall notify each of the Subordinate Lodges belonging to the jurisdiction, of all such proposed amendments.

After some discussion, the motion was put and declared lost.

Rep. Hockin moved, in accordance with notice given by Rep. Redman at the last Session of the Grand Lodge, to change second and third lines of Article II, Section 1, of the Constitution, to read as follows :

Such Annual Communication shall begin on the second Tuesday in August instead of third Tuesday in July.

The Resolution was adopted.

Rep. Alex. Robertson, D. G. M., moved the following resolution, according to notice given at last Session, that Section 1, Article III, of the Constitution be amended to read as follows :

OF OFFICERS.

Section 1.—The elective officers of the Grand Lodge shall be :

- 1st.—Most Worthy Grand Master.
- 2d.—Right Worthy Deputy Grand Master.
- 3d.—Right Worthy Grand Warden.
- 4th.—Right Worthy Grand Secretary.
- 5th.—Right Worthy Grand Treasurer.
- 6th.—Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Rep. Yorston, the order of business was suspended to receive Report of the Committee on Credentials.

The Committee then reported as correct the credentials of Brothers John Dryden and Daniel Hayden, of Scotia Lodge ; and of W. N. Mills, of Eastern Star Lodge. They were then introduced into the Grand Lodge.

Order of business resumed.

The Committee on Returns submitted the following Report, which, on motion, was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Representatives, of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., L. P., B. N. A.

Your Committee on Returns beg leave to report, that they have examined the Returns of each Lodge in the jurisdiction, and find them correct, with the following exceptions:—Beacon Lodge, no seal; Fuller Lodge, no seal—additions in finance not correct; Western Star, no seal; Orient Lodge, no seal—addition of funds not correct; Excelsior Lodge, no seal; Pioneer Lodge, no seal; Moore Lodge, no seal.

Respectfully submitted.

JAS. E. GELDERT,
THOMAS TURNBULL, } Committee.
ISAAC A. GRANT,

Moved by Rep. McConnell, and resolved, that all incorrect returns be sent back by the Secretary for correction.

The Committee on By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges reported as follows :

To the Officers and Members of the R. W. Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., Lower Provinces, B. N. A. :

Your Committee on By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report: That during the year we have examined the By-Laws of the following Lodges, and have approved of the same, with a few slight amendments made to some of them by the Committee :

Widow's Hope Lodge, No. 7; Orient Lodge, No. 10; Scotia Lodge, No. 11; Excelsior Lodge, No. 14; Eureka Lodge, No. 15; Western Star Lodge, No. 16.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEX. ROBERTSON, } Committee.
R. R. BARNES,

Halifax, N. S., July 21, 1874.

On motion, the Report was adopted.

Moved by Rep. Murdoch, and carried : that the Grand Secretary be instructed to request from each Lodge two printed copies of their laws, to be filed in the archives of the Grand Lodge.

A petition was received from Past Grand Master Charles H. Hamilton, of Acadia Lodge, No. 1, asking that the Grand Lodge grant him a certificate, in order that he might again unite with the Order as an Ancient Odd Fellow. The petition set forth that his certificate had been lost at the time of the collapse of Acadia Lodge after the fire.

On motion of Rep. Richards, seconded by Rep. Murdoch, the petition was referred to a Committee of three. Reps. Richards, Murdoch and Barnes were appointed on said Committee.

On motion, it was resolved; that when the Lodge adjourns this afternoon it stands adjourned until 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

On motion of Rep. Richards, the nomination and election of officers was fixed for 4 o'clock, P. M., the next day.

The Committee on Credentials reported Brother John Pringle, of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 2, a duly accredited Representative. Adopted.

On motion, Lodge closed.

WEDNESDAY, July 22, }
Orient Lodge Room, Halifax, N. S. }

R. W. Grand Lodge opened at 10 A. M., this day with prayer by Grand Chaplain. Reps. Mitchell and Mills were appointed, *pro tem*, to fill Deputy Grand Master and Grand Conductor's Chairs.

Minutes of former Session read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials reported the credentials of Past Grand P. J. Chisholm, of Widow's Hope Lodge, correct. Report adopted.

Deputy Grand Master Mitchell and Grand Warden Mills, by direction of Grand Master, retired to the ante-room and conferred the Grand Lodge Degree. Rep. Chisholm was introduced, and took his seat in the Grand Lodge.

The Secretary wishing to retire, Rep. Chisholm was appointed, *pro tem*.

Reps. Mitchell, Fraser, Mills, Turnbull and McKay were appointed to examine the Grand Master's Report, as far as related to Dispensations referred to by him.

Rep. Mur-
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No Committees being prepared to report, it was, on motion of Rep. Murdoch, seconded by Rep. McKay, resolved to adjourn until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Lodge ad-
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tion next day.

brother John
accredited

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Lodge opened in due form, Grand Master Taylor in the Chair.

The roll of members was called.

Minutes of forenoon Session read and approved.

The Committee on Petitions reported as follows :

Wednesday, July 23d, 1874.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of B. N. A. :

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The Special Committee on Petitions beg leave to report, that we have examined the petition of Excelsior Lodge, No. 14, located at Dartmouth; Eureka Lodge, No. 15, located at Spring Hill, Cumberland County; and Western Star, located at Annapolis; and would recommend that Charters be granted to said Lodges, they having paid all demands of this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee find that Moore Lodge, No. 17, located at Vale Colliery, Pictou County, is unconstitutional in its name, as no Lodge can be called after any living person, and recommend that the name be changed before we grant a Charter.

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We would also recommend that the Grand Master, or a Special Deputy, visit and examine the Lodge room, as the floor and other parts of the room are reported defective, and not according to law; and that the visit be paid within three months. That the Grand Secretary communicate this resolution to the Lodge, and if the report of the Deputy be approved by the Grand Master, a Charter be granted to the petitioners.

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Submitted in F. L. and T.

JAMES MITCHELL,
THOMAS W. TURNBULL,
ALEXANDER MCKAY,
SIMON FRASER, } Committee.

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On motion, the Report was taken up, section by section, and, after some discussion, adopted.

The Committee on Legislation submitted the following Report:

(a)

To the R. W. Grand Lodge, L. P., B. N. A. :

The Committee on Legislation, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master and Deputies reports relative to General Dispensations, beg to report that they have examined the same and find that they have been for the good of the Order, and would offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Dispensations granted in recess be approved.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES YORSTON, } Committee.
THOMAS TURNBULL, }

(b)

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the L. P., B. N. A. :

The Committee on Legislation, to whom was referred the Decisions given by the M. W. Grand Master, beg to report that they concur in the same, and would offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Decision given by the Grand Master be confirmed.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES YORSTON, } Committee.
THOMAS TURNBULL, }

On motion of Rep. Murdoch, seconded by Rep. Fraser, the above reports were adopted and the action of the Grand Master approved.

The Committee on Correspondence submitted their report, which was, on motion, taken up section by section :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers, and Members of the Grand Lodge, L. P., B. N. A. :

The Committee of this R. W. Body on Correspondence, beg leave to report, that they have examined the correspondence of the Grand Body, and find the bulk of the letters of no great importance, with the exception of three. No. 1 being a communication from Bro. James L. Ridgely, Grand Secretary Grand Lodge United States, relating to the necessity of having a complete history of the Order from its commencement, and inviting the co-operation of this R. W. Grand Body. They would recommend that a competent brother from this jurisdiction be appointed as historiographer for this jurisdiction.

Document No. 2—We find an extract from the semi-annual returns of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Ontario, for year ending 31st December, 1873.

We find the number of Lodges,	....	89	
Total membership, last Report,	....	5,649	
Present actual membership,	....	7,525	
Increase,	....	1,876	
Number of brothers relieved,	....	485	
Total relief,	....	\$12,081	62
Annual receipts of Subordinate Lodges,	....	\$62,283	84

Your Committee present these abstracts of our sister jurisdiction for the information of the members of this Grand Body, and to show the marked progress of our beloved Order in the Upper Provinces of this Dominion; and would recommend that a similar abstract of the work of this jurisdiction be published in January of each year.

Correspondence No. 3, is a copy of a letter from Bro. Samuel A. McDonald, Recording Secretary of Norton Lodge, complaining of neglect of duty on the part of Deputy D. D. G. M. Hockin, in not installing the officers of said Lodge. Your Committee cannot believe that our worthy brother could have acted in this manner without good and sufficient reasons, and recommend that an opportunity be afforded Bro. Hockin for an examination of the charge for neglect.

All of which is respectfully submitted, in F., L. and T.

R. RADFORD BARNES,
W. N. MILLS,
JOHN RICHARDS.

Halifax, N. S., July 1878.

First section read and adopted.

Second section read and adopted.

Third section read and adopted.

The Report was adopted as a whole.

The Grand Master appointed Reps. Barnes and Mills a Committee under the third section of the Report, to confer with District Deputy Hockin, and allow him to explain the charge of neglect preferred against him by the Secretary of Norton Lodge.

The Grand Master appointed Reps. Robertson, Barnes, and Alley, a Committee on mileage and per diem.

The election of officers being then in order, Reps. Richards and Mills were appointed scrutineers of the votes cast. The election closed with the following result:—Rep. Alex. Robertson, elected Grand Master; James E. Geldert, Deputy Grand Master; J. E. Irving, Grand Warden; W. Kilby Dimock, Grand Secretary; J. G. Ellis, C. S. Brennan, and Robert McConnell, Trustees; R. Radford Barnes, Grand Representative.

On motion of Rep. Richards, seconded by Rep. Mills, it was resolved to allow the Grand Secretary \$50 for his services during the year.

Lodge adjourned, to meet at 7.30 P. M.

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EVENING SESSION, 7.30 P. M.

Lodge opened in due form; Grand Master Taylor presiding.

Minutes of afternoon session read and approved.

The Committee on Correspondence reported:

GRAND LODGE ROOM,
Halifax, 22d July, 1874. }

The Committee on Correspondence beg to submit for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, a communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, having reference to a notice of resolution presented to the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States, having for its object the consolidation or management of the two branches of the Order.

Your Committee being divided as to the practicability of taking action in the matter, would respectfully refer the communication to the Grand Lodge for direction to the R. W. Grand Representative.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN RICHARDS,
R. RADFORD BARNES, } Committee.
W. N. MILLS,

Rep. Richards moved the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is not in a position to make a positive declaration with reference to the mergerment of the two branches of the Order;
And further Resolved, That the Grand Lodge having implicit confidence in its Worthy Grand Representative, will leave the matter to be acted upon by him when attending the next communication of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States.

Rep. Richards tendered an invitation from Victoria Lodge, to the R. W. Grand Lodge, to hold their next annual communication in Fredericton, N. B.

On motion of Rep. Dimock, seconded by Rep. Alley, it was—

Resolved, That this R. W. Grand Lodge returns its sincere thanks to Victoria Lodge, No. 13, for the invitation extended by Rep. Richards; but owing to the fact that St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 8, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., has frequently expressed a wish to have the Grand Lodge hold a session there;

Therefore Resolved, That when this Lodge adjourns, it adjourns to meet in Charlottetown, P. E. I., on the second Tuesday in August, 1875.

Rep. Irving thanked the Grand Lodge for its resolve to meet in Charlottetown.

The R. W. Grand Secretary read his Report for the past year, which was, on motion, referred to the proper Committees.

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge I. O. O. F. of L. P., B. N. A.:

In conformity with the requirements of this R. W. Grand Lodge, I herewith submit the Annual Report of the transactions of this office for the past year.

As an excuse for any sins of omission as well as commission, I will remind the members of this Grand Lodge of my unwillingness to assume the duties combined with this office, and the reasons assigned for such unwillingness. I have, however, endeavoured to keep the accounts and proceedings of this Grand Lodge with its subordinates as correctly as possible under the circumstances; and I trust that the following report will prove intelligible and satisfactory.

I have received reports from every Lodge in this jurisdiction, for the term ending June 30th, 1874. From returns in my possession, I am enabled to present the following statistics of the Order: Four new Lodges have been established during the last year, viz.—Excelsior, No. 14, at Dartmouth, N. S.; Eureka, No. 15, at Spring Hill Mines, N. S.; Western Star, No. 16, at Annapolis, N. S.; and Moore Lodge, No. 17, at Vale Colliery, N. S.; and are all working well to the best of my knowledge.

Number of Lodges now working,	....	....	14
“ Initiations during the year, according to reports, ..	....	....	318
“ Rejected do. do. ....	....	....	48
“ Admitted by Card do. do. ....	....	....	16
“ Withdrawn do. do. ....	....	....	60
“ Suspended do. do. ....	....	....	17
“ Expelled do. do. ....	....	....	2
“ Reinstated do. do. ....	....	....	13
“ Deaths do. do. ....	....	....	8
Total number of members, ....	....	....	<u>1,027</u>
Total number of members, as per last Annual Report, ....	....	....	738
“ Initiated during the year, ....	....	....	318
“ admitted by Card, ....	....	....	16
“ reinstated, ....	....	....	13
Total, ....	....	....	<u>1,180</u>
Total expelled, ....	....	....	2
“ withdrawn, ....	....	....	60
“ suspended, ....	....	....	17
“ deceased, ....	....	....	8
Total, ....	....	....	<u>87</u>
Total number now in membership, ....	....	....	<u>1,048</u>
Amount paid for relief of brothers, ....	....	....	\$536 45
“ for widowed families,	245 00
“ for burying the dead,	81 25
Total relief,	<u>\$862 60</u>

GRAND LODGE.

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1874.	Dr.				
June 30.	To Grand Lodge, dues from Pioneer Lodge, No. 9, to date,	\$47	10		
1878.					
Decr. 31.	" do. do. Orient Lodge, No. 10, to date,	28	50		
1874.					
May 19.	" cash from two dispensations, do. do.	1	00		
June 30.	" Grand Lodge, dues from do. do.	28	20		
July 20.	" cash for stock, do. do.	13	50		
1878.					
Decr. 31.	" Grand Lodge, dues from Scotia Lodge, No. 11, to date,	22	50		
1874.					
June 30.	" do. do. do. do.	26	10		
1878.					
Decr. 31.	" do. do. Beacon Lodge, No. 12, to date,	12	90		
1874.					
June 30.	" do. do. do. do.	18	60		
July 20.	" cash for stock, do. do. do.	5	00		
1878.					
Decr. 31.	" Grand Lodge, dues from Victoria Lodge, No. 13, to date,	12	90		
1874.					
June 30.	" do. do. do. do.	16	20		
March 11.	" cash for dispensation for charter Excelsior Lodge, No. 14,	30	00		
May 19.	" do. 2 do. do.	1	00		
June 30.	" Grand Lodge, dues from Excelsior Lodge, No. 14, to date,	8	10		
March 11.	" cash for dispensation charter Western Star Lodge, No. 16,	30	00		
June 30.	" Grand Lodge, dues from Western Star Lodge, No. 16,				
	to date,	7	20		
July 20.	" cash for stock for Western Star Lodge, No. 16,	5	20		
March 11.	" do. dispensation for charter Moore Lodge, No. 17,	30	00		
June 30.	" Grand Lodge, dues from do. to date,	7	50		
1878.					
Decr. 30.	" cash for dispensation for charter Eureka Lodge, No. 15,	30	00		
1874.					
June 30.	" Grand Lodge, dues from do. to date,	12	90		
July 22.	" cash for stock, Fuller Lodge,	27	37		
July 10.	" cash on account for stock, from Eureka Lodge,	4	50		
July 20.	" 30 old degree books, at \$1,	30	00		
July 20.	" exchange on draft sent to Grand Lodge U. S.,	8	62		
July 22.	" cash from Eureka Lodge, on account supplies,	5	00		
		\$1,378		17	
1878.	Cr.				
July 17.	By cash for mileage and per diem,	\$104	20		
Oct. 27.	" do. printing,	1	25		
Nov. 5.	" do. engraving charter,	140	00		
5.	" do. exchange,	37			
5.	" do. tin box for charter,	2	50		
5.	" cash paid R. R. Barnes, \$105; exchange on same, 53c.,	105	53		
10.	" do. freight and duty on proceedings Grand Lodge U. S.,	2	00		
Dec. 28.	" do. freight and duty on parcel from Baltimore,	7	40		
31.	" do. expenses to Spring Hill Mines, instituting Eureka Lodge,	12	94		
	Carried forward,	\$376	19	\$1,473	17

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		<i>Brought forward,</i>	 \$376 19 \$1873 17
1874.		CR.		
Jan.	8.	By cash paid for advertising in St. John Tribune,	4 00	
	9.	do. expenses visiting Widow's Hope,		
		No. 7, Truro, N. S.,	2 50	
	14.	do. Fowler & Co., for printing,	3 00	
Feb.	5.	do. Eastern Star Lodge, No. 2,	20 00	
	5.	do. postage and exchange,	30	
	15.	do. Grand Lodge U. S., \$88.48; less discount, \$3.45,	84 63	
May	27.	do. W. Macnab, for printing,	5 00	
June	13.	do. W. Macnab, for printing question books,	6 00	
	13.	do. Express charges,	25	
	27.	do. Grand Lodge U. S., \$75 A. C., less \$6 discount,	69 00	
July	16.	do. R. R. Barnes,	20 00	
	16.	do. Alex. Robertson,	24 50	
	18.	do. James Yorston,	83 00	
	17.	do. duty and express charges,	2 86	
	17.	do. Scotia Lodge, No. 11,	75 00	
	17.	do. express charges on two parcels, ..	1 00	
	17.	do. telegraph despatch,	30	
	17.	do. year's postage,	6 89	
	20.	do. Grand Lodge U. S., being balance of account current,	137 70	
	20.	do. for lock,	1 00	
		Cash on hand,	550 05	
				<u>\$1,873 17</u>

The Report was received, and referred to the Finance and Audit Committee.

ORIENT LODGE ROOM, }
July 23, 1874. }

The R. W. Grand Lodge was opened in due form; G. M. Taylor presiding.

Reps. Mitchell, McConnell, and Ohisholm were appointed to fill Chaplain, Marshal, and Conductor's seats, *pro tem*.

Minutes of last session read and confirmed.

The roll was called.

The Committee appointed at the Communication of 1873, to secure an Act of Incorporation, reported as follows:

Halifax, N. S., July 23, 1874.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge, L. P., B. N. A.:

Your Committee, appointed to obtain an Act of Incorporation for this Order, beg to report: That they have had a bill prepared for that purpose, a copy of which is herewith submitted; but after consultation with a number of brothers from different parts of the jurisdiction, your Committee have thought it better to submit the bill to this R. W. Grand Lodge, before applying to the Legislatures.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEX. ROBERTSON,
R. R. BARNES,
GILBERT MURDOCH, } Committee.

On motion, the consideration of the subject was deferred until next Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge went into secret Session, and the work was exemplified by Grand Representative Yorston, after which the Lodge resumed business.

The Committee, to whom was referred the charge from Norton Lodge against District Deputy Hockin, submitted their Report, which was adopted to read as follows:

Halifax, N. S., July 23.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the case of D. D. Grand Master Hockin, find, on referring to his report of official acts, and other information in their possession, that the brother was in the Town at the proper time for the purpose of installing the officers of Norton Lodge, New Glasgow, but owing to information received, did not proceed to the Lodge Room.

Your Committee are of opinion that no wrong was intended by D. D. Grand Master Hockin.

Respectfully submitted in F. L. & T,

R. R. BARNES, } Committee.
W. N. MILLS, }

On motion of Rep. Geldert, seconded by Rep. McConnell, it was resolved—

That the thanks of this R. W. Grand Lodge be tendered to the members of Orient Lodge, No. 10, of Halifax, for the cordial and brotherly manner in which they have been treated by the officers and members of said Lodge, in allowing them the use of their Lodge room; and entertaining them at a grand banquet Tuesday evening; and for the many other acts of kindness and courtesy shown them during their sojourn in Halifax.

On motion of Rep. McConnell, seconded by Rep. Dimock, it was resolved—

That the thanks of this R. W. Grand Lodge be tendered to the Railway Department for travelling facilities afforded to members attending this Grand Lodge.

Rep. Irving moved,

That the second paragraph of the fifth order of business be expunged, and the following substituted: "No motion shall be subject to action until it has been reduced to writing, signed by the mover and seconder, and put from the Chair."

The motion was put and lost.

Rep. Murdoch, Grand Chaplain, on behalf of the Representatives of St. John and Fredericton, invited the members of the Grand Lodge to dine with them at the Halifax Hotel, at 2.30 o'clock.

The invitation was accepted.

The Committee on the State of the Order reported :

R. W. Grand Master, Officers, and Representatives of the Grand Lodge, Lower Provinces, B. N. A. :

Your Committee on the State of the Order report as follows :

1st. That they have examined the Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, which have been handed in, and find them on the whole satisfactory. That there is nothing in them calling for special reference, if we except those portions which refer to the peace and harmony prevailing in the several districts, a feature which your Committee regard as a good omen for the future prosperity of the Order, and earnestly pray that such may ever be the case.

2d. Regarding the visits of the Grand Master during the past year, to which the attention of this Committee has been called by the Committee on that officer's report, we would most earnestly commend his zeal, and express the hope that his successor may, if possible, be even more diligent, as we deem such visits most essential to the well being of the Order.

3d. The attention of this Committee has also been directed to a Society called "The Odd Fellows' Beneficial Association," and would state, that while your Committee approve of the object of this Association, they nevertheless think that before the name of this Order is used for this or kindred Associations, the consent of this Grand Body should be first obtained, and a copy of the by-laws, adopted by such Associations, submitted for approval, as we deem it advisable at all times to guard against innovations.

4th. Your Committee deem it unnecessary to recount items on the numerical strength of the Order, as said information is contained in the report of the M. W. Grand Secretary, but would state that they have carefully considered said item, gathered from various sources, and find the number of members in this jurisdiction to be, as per returns from the different Lodges up to the 30th of June last, 1027. We rejoice over the number of initiations, which have reached the handsome total of 318 during the year, being an increase of over 100 per cent. as compared with the preceding year. The fact that only 17 members in the whole jurisdiction have been suspended is highly creditable, and only 2 expelled, something to rejoice over. Then, again, the low rate of mortality among our members, only 8 deaths having occurred during the year, is remarkable, and your Committee desire to recognize the over-ruling providence of God in this matter, and call on our members for increased thankfulness to Him for this happy state of affairs.

5th.—Your Committee desire to impress upon this Grand Lodge the necessity of having a table of vital statistics introduced, and recommend that the Grand Secretary in conjunction with members of the Finance Committee, be requested to prepare a plan, to be submitted to this Lodge at its next meeting.

6th. This Committee, in presenting their report, trust that they have discharged all their duties, although they cannot be certain that they have come up to the expectations of the Committee on the Report of the Grand Master, who first refe. to them "Visitations," "Beneficial Aid Society," and all other matters in said Report—then a balance of D. D. Grand Master Robertson's Report, together with a reference to Moore Lodge, and another balance of the last named Report.

7th. Your Committee would urge on the Subordinate Lodges the necessity of being more prompt and careful in their various reports, made from time to time to this Lodge, as such a course would redound to the credit of the Order.

All of which is submitted in F. L. and T.

W. B. ALLEY,
GILBERT MURDOCH, } Committee.

The Report was discussed section by section, and adopted to read as above.

On motion of Rep. Mills, seconded by Rep. Barnes, the Report was adopted as a whole.

The Finance and Audit Committee reported :

Halifax, July 23d, 1874.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., Lower Provinces, B. N. A. :

Your Finance Committee beg leave to report to the Grand Lodge now in session that they have had submitted to them the Report of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, and have most carefully examined the same.

The Report of Bro. W. F. Chase while not presenting to the Grand Lodge as full a report of the work during the past year as might be desired, at the same time gives a fair idea of the arduous labors of the Grand officers.

The books of the Secretary-Treasurer have been submitted to your Committee, and very carefully examined. They find the accounts have been carefully kept, and in all cases, when possible, find vouchers for amounts paid out.

Your Committee believe it their duty to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the books that have been heretofore provided for this office, and must concur in your Committee's recommendation of last year, which in section 6th reads as follows: "And recommend that the M. W. Grand Master and R. W. Grand Secretary be appointed a special Committee to open a new set of books, and simplify or systematize the accounts as much as possible." This has not been attended to by the Committee, owing to the severe affliction that very early in the year visited our esteemed Grand Master, and which prevented him giving that attention required to the work. Your Committee again feel it their duty to impress upon this Grand Body the absolute necessity for a liberal expenditure in order to have a correct and simple manner of conducting the financial affairs of the Order. We would recommend the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized, by vote of the Lodge, to obtain and open a proper set of books.

The amount of money received last year is \$1,878.17; amount expended \$823.12, leaving a balance to credit of this Grand Body of \$550.05.

Your Committee would estimate the expenses of the next official year as follows:

Grand Master, Travelling Expenses,.....	\$100.00
Grand Secretary, salary and expenses,.....	100.00
Books and stationery,.....	50.00
Grand Lodge, U. S.,.....	75.00
Mileage, and per diem,.....	400.00
Incidental expenses,.....	75.00

\$800.00

making a total amount of expenses Eight Hundred Dollars.

Your Committee would recommend that the per capita tax of last year be continued—that is to say, 60 cents per year, 80 cents per term. They find that this has given general satisfaction.

In conclusion, your Committee would congratulate this R. W. Grand Body on the very satisfactory exhibit of the finances of the Order, and trust sincerely that this is but the dawn of a brighter epoch in the history of our Order.

Respectfully submitted in F. L. and T.

GILBERT MURDOCH,	} Committee.
R. RADFORD BARNES,	
W. N. MILLS,	
JAMES MITCHELL,	

On motion of Rep. Geldert, seconded by Rep. McConnell, the Report was adopted.

Rep. Geldert moved, seconded by Rep. Turnbull, that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Orient Lodge, No. 10, for the handsome present they had made this Grand Lodge of a Grand Representative's Regalia, and that Grand Master Taylor be authorized to convey the same to said Lodge.

Adopted unanimously.

The Committee on Mileage and per diem, reported the following Representatives entitled to the amount set opposite their names respectively:

Names.	Residence.	Lodge.	Miles.	Amount.	Days.	Total.
Henry A. Taylor,	Halifax,	Orient,	.....	.....	3	\$3 00
W. F. Chase,	do.	do.	.....	.....	3	3 00
Alex. Robertson,	St. John,	Pioneer,	276	\$18 80	3	16 00
James E. Geldert,	Truro,	Widow's Hope	61	3 05	3	6 05
W. B. Alley,	New Glasgow,	Norton,	104	5 20	3	8 20
Thos. W. Turnbull,	Stellarton,	Fuller,	101	5 05	3	8 05
R. R. Barnes,	St. John,	Beacon,	276	18 80	3	16 80
Carried forward,			818	\$40 90	21	\$61 10

Names.	Residence.	Lodge.	Miles.	Amount.	Days.	Total.
	<i>Brought forward,....</i>		818	\$40 90	21	\$61 10
W. K. Dimock,	St. John,	Pioneer,	276	13 80	3	16 80
R. B. Emerson,	do.	do.	276	13 80	3	16 80
John Richards,	Fredericton,	Victoria,	348	17 15	3	20 15
C. S. Brennan,	do.	do.	348	17 15	3	20 15
John G. C. Ellis,	Charlottetown	St. Lawrence,	152	7 60	3	10 60
John P. Irving,	do.	do.	152	7 60	3	10 60
John Pringle,	Pictou,	Eastern Star,	118	5 65	3	8 65
W. N. Mills,	do.	do.	118	5 65	3	8 65
P. McG. Chisholm,	New Glasgow,	Norton,	104	5 20	3	8 20
R. McConnell,	do.	do.	104	5 20	3	8 20
James Mitchell,	Stellarton,	Fuller,	101	5 05	3	8 05
John Dryden,	Westville,	Scotia,	106	5 30	3	8 30
D. Hayman,	do.	do.	106	5 30	3	8 30
Simon Fraser,	Truro,	Widow's Hope	61	3 05	3	6 05
P. J. Chisholm,	do.	do.	61	3 05	2	5 05
A. McKay,	Spring Hill,	Eureka,	121	6 05	3	9 05
L. M. Leadley,	Dartmouth,	Excelsior,	2	10	3	3 10
W. Williams,	Halifax,	Orient,	....	.....	3	3 00
James Yorston,	Pictou,	Eastern Star,	118	5 65	3	8 65
Robert Hockin,	do.	do.	118	5 65	2	7 65
			\$578	\$178 90	79	\$257 90

Submitted in L. P. and F.

ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, }
 R. RADFORD BARNES, } Committee.
 W. B. ALLEY, }

On motion, the Report was adopted, and the Secretary authorized to pay the amounts, with the exception of Representatives from Widow's Hope, Pioneer and Eastern Star Lodges, as these Lodges had not certified which Representatives were to receive mileage.

INSTALLATION.

The M. W. Grand Master, elect, was then installed into office by M. W. Grand Master Taylor.

Grand Master Robertson then installed the elective and appointed officers as follows :

JAMES E. GELBERT,.....R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
 JOHN P. IRVING,....." Grand Warden.
 W. KILBY DIMOCK,....." Secretary-Treasurer.
 GILBERT MURDOOH,....." Chaplain.
 R. B. EMERSON,....." Marshal.
 P. J. CHISHOLM,....." Conductor.
 JOHN PRINGLE,....." Guardian.
 JOHN DRYDEN,....." Herald.

D. Deputy Grand Masters.—K. J. Matheson, Halifax District ; James E.

Geldert, Truro; Robert McConnell, Pictou; J. G. C. Ellis, Prince Edward Island; John Richards, Fredericton.

The Grand Master then appointed the following Committees:

Finance.—Reps. Gilbert Murdoch, R. R. Barnes, R. B. Emerson, John Richards and Robert Hockin.

Credentials.—Reps. I. A. Grant, T. W. Turnbull and W. F. Chase.

Returns.—Reps. R. R. Barnes, G. Murdoch and R. B. Emerson.

Correspondence.—Reps. James Yorston, D. Hayman and J. P. Irving.

Appeals.—J. G. C. Ellis, C. S. Brennan, R. McConnell, P. J. Chisholm and K. J. Matheson.

Laws of Subordinates.—Reps. J. Yorston, R. Hockin and W. N. Mills.

Petitions.—Reps. R. McConnell, John Pringle and A. McKay.

State of the Order.—Reps. W. B. Alley, P. J. Chisholm and W. N. Mills.

Legislation.—Reps. W. Williams, S. Keith and John Richards.

Rep. Murdoch moved, and Rep. Dimock seconded, the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, after several members had spoken in eulogistic terms on the subject:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Rep. R. Radford Barnes, P. G. M., for his labors in writing up and publishing the Minutes of the R. W. Grand Lodge for three years.

Moved by Rep. Murdoch, seconded by Rep. Geldert, and resolved: That the Secretary be authorized to have 500 copies of the Minutes of this Session published in pamphlet form, with the Constitution, Standing Resolutions, &c., included.

The Minutes of the Session were read and approved.

The business of the Session being concluded, prayer was offered by the Worthy Grand Chaplain, Gilbert Murdoch, and the R. W. Grand Lodge adjourned at 2.30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted.



W. KILBY DIMOCK,
Grand Secretary.

Abstract of Annual Returns for the year ending 30th June, 1874.

NAME OF LODGE.	Number.	LOCATION.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	Initiated.	Rejected.	Admitted by Card.	Withdrawn by Card.	Re-instated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Deaths.	Past Grands.	No. of Contributing Members.	Dues to Grand Lodge.	No. of Widowed Families Relieved.	Amount paid for Relief of Brothers.	Amount paid for the Relief of W. Families.	Amount paid for Burying the Dead.	Annual Receipts.
Eastern Star,...	2	Pictou, N. S.	Wednesday,...	7	4	4	2	1	..	..	1	10	103	\$60 60	1	\$43 50	\$80 00	\$20 00	\$420 49
Fuller,	5	Stellarton, N. S.	Friday,	22	4	1	17	4	2	..	..	18	123	72 70	9	106 25	135 00	...	647 65
Norton,	6	New Glasgow, N. S.	Monday,	22	3	6	1	..	..	..	..	13	79	49 50	..	95 00	...	...	560 50
Widow's Hope, ..	7	Truro, N. S.	Friday,	18	2	1	5	1	3	1	1	6	51	28 20	..	..	...	31 25	240 94
St. Lawrence,...	8	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	Monday,	45	9	1	1	..	..	..	3	5	87	52 20	..	20 50	...	...	746 00
Pioneer,	9	St. John, N. B.	Friday,	27	..	17	..	..	3	..	1	8	157	92 40	..	38 00	...	30 00	960 16
Orient,	10	Halifax, N. S.	Monday,	35	9	4	25	8	..	..	1	8	94	56 70	..	28 00	...	30 00	846 24
Scotia,	11	Westville, N. S.	Thursday,...	27	3	4	2	..	..	..	..	7	87	48 60	1	131 00	...	...	645 80
Beacon,	12	St. John, N. B.	Tuesday,...	28	3	1	2	..	..	..	2	62	62	31 50	..	7 00	...	...	397 29
Victoria,	13	Fredericton, N. B.	Monday,	22	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	54	29 10	..	...	...	...	403 01
Excelsior,*	14	Dartmouth, N. S.	Thursday,...	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	27	8	10	..	...	...	...	134 00
Eureka,*	15	Spring Hill, N. S.	Thursday,...	17	4	3	..	..	1	..	4	43	12	90	..	21 50	...	...	326 02
Western Star,* ..	16	Annapolis, N. S.	Tuesday,...	9	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	7	20	..	...	...	...	187 50
Moore,*	17	Vale Colliery, N. S.	Wednesday, ..	20	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	25	7	50	..	...	...	...	292 00
Totals,	14	* For one term only.		321	48	20	77	7	16	2	8	85	1016	657 20	11	490 75	215 00	111 25	6,807 60



